20734

November 8, 1965

Mr. Arthur Miller
c/O The Viking Press
625 Madison Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Miller:

Athough your work and your extracurricular activities must be keeping you quite busy, I am nonetheless writing in the hope that either when you are in the forthcoming demonstration in Washington or when I am next in New York, you might be able to spare a few moments to talk to me about a book I have written, its non-publishing history that I think may interest you, its contents in which I think you may find some values, and to see if there are any suggestions you might make that might help me.

The title of the book is "The Report on the Warren Report". It is a little over a hundred thousand words long, is based entirely upon the official information of the Commission to which it is exhaustively footnoted, and I believe completely demolishes the Report. It has been praised as highly responsible, fascinating, respectful of the Commission, shocking, shaking - almost any kind of a compliment has been paid it by editors who have read it. It has now been turned down by about three dozen houses without a single adverse editorial comment. There seems to be a publisher's self-imposed compulsion to avoid the subject. In a few cases I have been told explicitly fear of the government was the reason for the rejection. Most, however, have said they believe there is no longer any interest in the subject; hence, the book would not be profitable. I cannot believe an American president can be assassinated and awarded the official epitaph of a phony investigation.

I believe you will find in my meticulous documentation of the official sources material that you might find currently useful.

So that you may assure yourself in advance of the validity of what I have told you I will refer you to three people in New York who, among the many who have read my book, might be willing to describe it to you. Howard Cady, executive editor at David McKay, who wrote me he thought my book would be a big best-seller, at least in Europe, and a good seller in the United States, has given me permission to refer anyone who might have a preliminary interest in my book to him.

Mrs. Beatrice Rosenthal is a science editor at Viking. She and her

husband who is a lawyer have both read the book.

Both of these publishers represented themselves as believing that the subject has no interest matter and the book would not draw.

I do hope your undoubtedly heavy schedule will permit you to spare me a few minutes in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg